

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02453 112139Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11

HA-05 IO-13 /082 W

-----093105 121420Z /43

R 111400Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8825

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUSAKA 2453

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PGOV ZA

SUBJ: DATES ANNOUNCED FOR PARTY GENERAL CONFERENCE

REF: A-26 LUSAKA

1. PARTY SECRETARY-GENERAL MAINZA CHONA HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE EIGHTH GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE PARTY (UNIP) WILL TAKE PLACE AT MULUNGUSHI ROCK NEAR KABWE FROM SEPTEMBER 9 - 12. THE GENERAL CONFERENCE (GC), A PRECURSOR TO NATION-WIDE ELECTIONS FOR PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, IS EXPECTED TO ENDORSE THE NATIONAL COUNCIL'S JUNE DECISION TO NOMINATE PRESIDENT KAUNDA AS SOLE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE. THE SEVERAL THOUSAND DELEGATES TO THE CG WILL ALSO SELECT MEMBERS OF THE PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE TO SERVE FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

2. COMMENT: WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE PARTY GENERAL CONFERENCE, POLITICKING IN ZAMBIA FOR THE UPCOMING GENERAL ELECTIONS WILL BEGIN IN EARNEST. WHILE IT IS STILL TECHNICALLY POSSIBLE FOR ANOTHER CANDIDATE TO BE PRESENTED TO THE GC, CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS MAKE IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT THERE WILL BE ANY

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FORMAL OPPOSITION TO KAUNDA (REFAIR). THERE MAY BE SOME CHANGES IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE. THE GENERAL CONFERENCE ALSO HAS THE AUTHORITY TO REVIEW OR CHANGE ANY POLICY OF THE PARTY WITH THE EXCEPTION OF AMENDING THE PARTY CONSTITUTION. WHILE WE WOULD GUESS THAT THERE WILL BE SIGNIFICANT IN-HOUSE DEBATE ON ECONOMIC AND FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES, IT WOULD BE SURPRISING TO SEE THE GC RECOMMEND OR MANDATE ANY BASIC CHANGE

IN THOSE POLICIES.  
CLINGERMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NOMINATION, PARTY MEETINGS, PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978LUSAKA02453  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014